

NOAA NWS ISSUES RED FLAG WARNING FOR L.A. COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA COASTAL, MOUNTAINS & VALLEY COMMUNITIES

Red Flag Warning: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 (6 a.m.-6 p.m.)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) Los Angeles/Oxnard office has issued a Red Flag Warning for the Los Angeles County Operational Area including coastal and mountain areas, Santa Clarita Valley, San Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley, and Santa Monica Mountain Recreational Area in regards to forecasted gusty winds and very low relative humidity conditions which is in effect at 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

A NOAA NWS Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or will be expected. This combination of strong winds, low relative humidity and warm temperatures could create extreme fire behavior.

Los Angeles County Operational Area residents living in brush areas are reminded to take appropriate precautions. These precautions include the following:

- Report any sign of smoke immediately to your local fire department by dialing 9-1-1 (If dialing 9-1-1 from your cellular phone, know your location).
- Use extreme caution when operating spark or flame-producing machinery in brush areas.
- If living in a hazardous grass or brush area, have a Wildfire Action Plan in place. Be familiar with the Los Angeles County Fire Department's READY! SET! GO! This program provides important pre-planning and evacuation information to residents. Visit www.fire.lacounty.gov for more information.

Los Angeles County residents and businesses, including persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, may call 211 LA County for emergency preparedness information, and other referral services. The toll-free 2-1-1 number is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. 211 LA County services can also be accessed at <http://211la.org>. To register for the Specific Needs Awareness Planning program please go to <https://snap.lacounty.gov>. For disaster/emergency preparedness information, please access <http://lacoa.org> and/or <http://espfocus.org>.

Sources: NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard office – <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/>

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